

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 118310 TOSEC 010108

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA:RHMILLER:MHS

APPROVED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY

S/S :REWOODS

S:LSEAGLEBURGER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118310 TOSEC 010108

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, LA

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN LAOS

1. BY SEPARATE MESSAGES, REPEATED TOSEC, I HAVE INSTRUCTED OUR CHARGE IN VIENTIANE TO ACCELERATE THE REDUCTION OF ALL MISSION PERSONNEL IN LAOS, AND TO EMPHASIZE AGAIN TO THE PGNU THEIR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SAFETY OF AMERICA; LIVES AND PROPERTY.

2. I FEEL THAT THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE NECESSARY BECAUSE OF THE UNFOLDING SITUATION THERE, AND BECAUSE I HAVE HAD THE FEELING THAT THE MISSION WAS NOT MOVING RAPIDLY ENOUGH TO CUT DOWN ITS NUMBERS DESPITE EARLIER INSTRUCTIONS TO DO SO. ALSO, BY PHONE FROM CHARGE CHAPMAN TO BOB MILLER THIS AFTERNOON, WE LEARNED THAT A STUDENT MOB HAS OCCUPIED THE USAID COMPOUND IN VIENTIANE FOR SOME THREE HOURS, AND THAT THE POLICE PROTECTION IS INEFFECTIVE. CHAPMAN TOLD MILLER THAT HE IS ORDERING OUT ALL DEPENDENTS AND IS LOOKING INTO THE NEED FOR CHARTER AIRCRAFT TO ACCOMPLISH THIS. MILLER CONVEYED TO CHAPMAN OUR FEELING THAT HE WAS NOT MOVING QUICKLY ENOUGH TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS IN VIEW OF THE GROWING RESORT TO MOB ACTIVITY. INGERSOLL

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